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(54) Title: TRANSGENIC MAMMALS HAVING HUMAN IG LOCI INCLUDING PLURAL VH AND VK REGIONS AND ANTIBOD-IES PRODUCED THEREFROM

(57) Abstract

The present invention relates to transgenic non-human animals that are engineered to contain human immunoglobulin gene loci. In particular, animals in accordance with the invention possess human Ig loci that include plural variable (VH and VK) gene regions. Advantageously, the inclusion of plural variable region genes enhances the specificity and diversity of human antibodies produced by the animal. Further, the inclusion of such regions enhances and reconstitutes B-cell development to the animals, such that the animals possess abundant mature B-cells secreting extremely high affinity antibodies.

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 6 A01K67/027 C07K //C12N15/85, C07K16/00 C07K16/24 C07K16/28 C12N15/90 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC B. FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) AO1K CO7K C12N IPC 6 Documentation searched other than minimumdocumentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Relevant to claim No. Category * Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages 1-16 A. JAKOBOVITS ET AL., : "Production of Α antigen-specific human antibodies from mice engineered with human heavy and light chain YACs" ANNALS OF THE NEW YORK ACADEMY OF SCIENCES, vol. 764, 1995, NEW YORK, NY, US, pages 525-535, XP002067728 see the whole document but specially pages 533-534 Patent family members are listed in annex. Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Special categories of cited documents : "I" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance Invention "E" earlier document but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone filing date document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publicationdate of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such docu-"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date dalmed "&" document member of the same patent family Date of mailing of the international search report Date of the actual completion of their ternational search 25/06/1998 12 June 1998 Authorized officer Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patenttaan 2 NL - 2290 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo ni, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016 Mateo Rosell, A.M.

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